

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5910-8]

National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology: Full Council Meeting**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: Under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Pub. L. 92463, EPA gives notice of a two-day meeting of the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology (NACEPT). NACEPT provides advice and recommendations to the Administrator of EPA on a broad range of environmental policy issues. This meeting is being held to formally present reports and recommendations to EPA and to discuss future activities and projects of NACEPT.

Reports and recommendations will be presented by the Reinvention Criteria Committee, the Community-Based Environmental Protection Committee, the Toxic Data Reporting Committee, and the Effluent Guidelines Committee. Future activities for these committees will also be discussed, as well as plans for the topics to be addressed by the Environmental Information and Public Access Committee, and the Environmental Capital Markets Committee, which are two new NACEPT Committees.

DATES: The two-day public meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 5, 1997, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Thursday, November 6, 1997 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 Noon. On both days, the meeting will be held at the Sheraton National Hotel, Columbia Pike and Washington Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia.

ADDRESSES: Material may be transmitted to the Committee through Gordon Schisler, Deputy Director, Office of Cooperative Environmental Management (1601-F), 401 M Street, SW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone (202) 260-9741.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Clarence Hardy, Designated Federal Officer for NACEPT, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, (1601-F), Washington, D.C. 20460; telephone (202) 260-9741.

Dated: October 9, 1997.

Gordon Schisler,*Acting Designated Federal Official.*

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-5752-3; CWA-97-H-001]

GTE Corporation; Proposed Clean Water Act Class II Administrative Complaint Assessment**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).**ACTION:** Notice.

SUMMARY: EPA has filed a civil administrative complaint against GTE Corporation (GTE) for failure to prepare Spill Prevention Countermeasure and Control (SPCC) plans for 89 facilities where it stored diesel oil, 88 with above ground and one with below ground tanks, in violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and its implementing regulations. EPA under CWA section 311 has assessed a civil penalty and provided GTE notice of the proposed issuance of an order assessing a penalty and an opportunity for a hearing. The Administrator, as required by CWA section 311, is providing public notice and reasonable opportunity to interested persons to comment on the proposed issuance of the order.

DATES: Comments on this proposed order are due on or before November 19, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Mail written comments to Ms. Angela DeVore, Multimedia Enforcement Division (2248-A), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460. In person, deliver comments to Ms. Angela DeVore, Multimedia Enforcement Division, Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. 3117, Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC.

Comments may also be submitted electronically to: devore.angela@epamail.epa.gov. Follow the instructions under Unit II. of this document.

The public record for the proceeding is located in the Office of the EPA Headquarters Hearing Clerk, Ms. Bessie Hammel, Rm. C-400, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC, Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; telephone (202) 260-4865.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Persons wishing to receive a copy of 40 CFR Part 22—Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation or Suspension of Permits, to review the complaint or other documents filed by the parties in this proceeding, comment upon the proposed penalty assessment, or

participate in any hearing that may be held, should contact Ms. Angela DeVore, Multimedia Enforcement Division (2248-A), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M St., SW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone (202) 564-2235; fax (202) 564-9001; e-mail: devore.angela@epamail.epa.gov.

For technical information contact: Gerard C. Kraus, Multimedia Enforcement Division, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, at (202) 564-6047.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Availability: Electronic copies of this document are available from the EPA Home Page at the **Federal Register**—Environmental Documents entry for this document under “Laws and Regulations” (<http://www.epa.gov/fedrgrstr/>).

I. Background

GTE, One Stamford Forum, Stamford, CT 06904, self-disclosed to EPA that it had failed to prepare SPCC plans for 89 facilities where it stored diesel oil, 88 with above ground and one with below ground tanks, in violation of the CWA and 40 CFR part 112. The disclosures were made pursuant to the EPA “Incentives for Self-Policing: Discovery, Disclosures, Correction and Prevention of Violations” (“the Audit Policy”) (60 FR 66706, December 22, 1995). EPA filed an administrative civil complaint against GTE on September 29, 1997 (in re: GTE Corporation, CWA-97-H-001). The administrative penalty proposed in the complaint is the statutory maximum, \$125,000. EPA intends to settle this action under the Audit Policy. Using the criteria set forth in the policy, EPA intends to waive any gravity based penalty and collect economic benefit enjoyed by the Respondent because of delayed compliance with the SPCC regulations. The proposed settlement figure for this matter is \$16,708. This settlement is subject to public notice and comment under CWA section 311 (33 U.S.C. 1321).

Under CWA section 311(b)(6) (33 U.S.C. 1321(b)(6)), any owner, operator, or person in charge of a vessel, onshore facility, or offshore facility from which oil is discharged in violation of CWA section 311(b)(3) (33 U.S.C. 1321(b)(3)), or who fails or refuses to comply with any regulations that have been issued under CWA section 311(j) (33 U.S.C. 1321(j)) may be administratively assessed a civil penalty of up to \$125,000 by EPA. Class II proceedings under CWA section 311(b)(6) are conducted in accordance with 40 CFR part 22 rules.

The procedures by which the public may submit written comments on a